**HPNA digs deeper into development issues**

*Mary Ellen Gambon*  
**Staff Reporter**

About 25 members of the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association attended the meeting on Thursday, October 4 to discuss new development issues — one in the near future and the other on the radar.

The first focus was a recap of the meeting on October 1 on the Sprague Street development project at 36-70 Sprague Street in Readville. The project, which is currently in the final comment period with the Boston Development and Planning Agency (BPDA), is now being presented as a 492-unit, four-building development, mixed-use development with condominiums and apartments.

“This is only a reduction of about 20 something units,” HPNA president John Raymond said. “They tried to confuse us by lowering the square footage by about 7,500 square feet. But there wasn’t a big reduction in units.”

The developer, Jordan D. Warshaw, of the Noannet Group, eliminated 29 units from the final plan. There will be 364 for-rent apartments and 128 for-sale condos, according to the proposal.

“I have never seen a meeting that large in all my years of living here,” he continued. “A couple of people were for it, and a lot of union guys were there. Right now people are just going to have to watch and listen.”

**HPNA Meeting**  
Continued on page 13

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**Neponset Greenway talks bike paths in Hyde Park**

*Jeff Sullivan*  
**Staff Reporter**

The Neponset River Greenway Council (NRGC) met last week and discussed several items regarding the Greenway and Hyde Park.

The Greenway, it is hoped, will connect Milton to Dorchester on a fully-protected bike lane on the streets and a nature bike path through protected areas of the Massachusetts Department of Recreation and Conservation (DCR). Currently, there are ways to bike the path, but some areas, particularly in Hyde Park, could use some work.

Most of the Hyde Park section deals with what was called in 2009 the Neponset Trail Phase II project, which connected the Martini Shell to Mattapan between the Truman Parkway and the Neponset River. It opened in 2012 and was completed in 2015, spanning to the Neponset River Parkway in Readville at the southern edge of Boston.

**Neponset River**  
Continued on page 6

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**Fairmount Hill group talks about gas concerns with officials**

*Mary Ellen Gambon*  
**Staff Reporter**

Despite the change of location to the Area E-18 police station, about 35 people came to the Fairmount Hill Neighborhood Association (FHNA) meeting on September 26, to discuss a possible zoning violation on Pond Street with a home that has created a parking lot on its front lawn for an Airbnb.

“The owner has taken a beautiful old Queen Anne Victorian house and tarred over the front lawn,” said the group’s zoning committee co-chair, Joe Smith. “The house is being used as an Airbnb. We have discussed this issue at previous meetings. Now they are at the point of painting lines for four parking spaces. We are annoyed.”

Bryan Flynn, Hyde Park’s liaison from the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, said he has “double teamed” with Steven Magazine from City Councilor Tim McCarthy’s office to pursue the issue with the Inspectonal Services Department (ISD).

“I have spoken with Lisa Coveney, who is an official with ISD,” Flynn said.

“But the community needs to keep reporting this issue,” Flynn continued. “I cannot stress this enough. If you keep calling 311 or using the 311 app with pictures, they can potentially be put for Fairmount Hill”  
Continued on page 12
SWBCDC hosts Doyle Playground update and Block Party

Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

The Southwest Boston Community Development Corporation (SWBCDC) recently hosted a block party and progress update for the proposed playground and park at the site which is currently known as the Doyle Playground.

The party, which was held on Saturday, Sept. 29, was to show the community what has been done on the planning for the playground. The SWBCDC gave out fliers, updated the community, provided free food and hosted a live DJ for the day.

SWBCDC Board Chair Mimi Turcinez said it’s been amazing to see the community rally around this project and throw their support into it.

“There’s a lot of stuff going on here and this is great,” she said. “We’ve been working really hard for a lot of months and years to get the playground where it is right now.”

Currently, the group’s hired landscape architect Offshoots Inc. and has put together several plans for the park, and though nothing is set in stone, residents said they’re happy with the current look. The design places a concert stage perpendicular to the current brick wall on the east side of the parcel, which will be painted in a mural. The current design features park playground equipment in a naturalized design, as there is a traditional playground set up at Ross Playground nearby. Residents said at a July visioning session they also wanted to see some work-out equipment, as there is no option like that in the neighborhood.

Currently, the group has been able to clean up the area along the Neponset River and create mulch paths to and along the river.

SWBCDC Board Member Sheila Burke said it was good to see so many people come out to support the park and have a good time.

“Today is very beautiful, the weather has been good to us and I haven’t seen the plans for the park in the last few months so it’s been good to know what’s been taking place,” she said. “Everybody’s enjoying the activities here and that’s what we want, we want people to utilize this space.”

Resident Lawrence Whyte and his friend Gabriel Spivey said they had come to the park when it had playground equipment years and years ago, and said they were glad to see one of their childhood memories coming back to life.

“We’re all friends and we all grew up together, I mean Gabe and his family grew up in that house right over there,” Whyte said, pointing to the house on the western border of the parcel. “So when I was younger, we used to play at this park, when it still had the swings and all that stuff. When I was going around recruiting people for a cleanup day, we stopped at another friend’s house and he saw the playground idea and they were able to come to that very first cleanup day.”

Whyte said the group has narrowed down the artist at least for the mural on the east wall, but he said ideas for the mural are still welcome. The mural is still welcome. The artist is known for portraits, but Whyte said all ideas are welcome. He pointed to a marker drawing from one of the younger participants, which showed a globe with people holding hands and celebrating community.

“If people want to draw up their ideas or just write them down, that’s awesome and that’s what we’re doing,” he said. “Today’s going really well, we’re seeing a lot of people coming out of their homes and coming by and I’m excited about the progress that we’ve made and the progress we can make for the future... I was having kind of a rough morning, and when I came here and saw how open it was and the progress we’ve made with the pathing and mulching, that’s like two years of work. It was refreshing and it just made me feel excited.”

Resident Sophia Simeon said it was amazing to see the community come together around this piece of land and the other playgrounds around the neighborhood.

“Me before you had to go to other neighborhoods just to go to a playground,” she said. “It’s amazing, it feels like people want to stay here. I mean this area was dying and they’ve brought new life to it. There’s the Ross Playground now and this playground... I used to go all the way to Jamaica Plain to go to a playground and now we have our own.”

Resident and founder of New England Bike Life Maurice Thomas said he had no idea this was happening on that Saturday, but he was glad to see it.

“I live next door and I heard the music, and I just wanted to come out, check it out and support the community,” he said. “It’s just fantastic, this was nothing but concrete and dirt and nothing else and this just beautiful now.”

For more information go to swbcdc.org.

Residents came out during the last week of September to celebrate the progress of the Doyle Playground and see what’s on the docket for the future.

“SWBCDC Board Chair Mimi Turcinez said it’s been amazing to see the community rally around this project and throw their support into it.”

**WE’VE BEEN HERE IN HYDE PARK THE WHOLE TIME,** she said. “The ground had just been left and it was just a waste. I used to see kids play here a little bit, I mean it was a little something for the kids around the neighborhood, and this addition to it would help a lot.”

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For more information go to swbcdc.org.
The Bulletin

Ed Walsh Wiffle Ball Tournament hits straight into fifth year

Henry Walsh Foundation Wiffle Ball Tournament kicked off on Monday, Oct. 8, to the delight of hundreds of children and families.

The tournament was established to celebrate the life of Boston Fire Department Lieutenant Ed Walsh, who perished during a Back Bay fire in 2014 along with Firefighter Michael Kennedy. Walsh was a resident of both Hyde Park and Roslindale, and supported dozens of charities in his lifetime.

His wife, Kristen Walsh, said she wanted to keep his spirit alive by donating to those same charities, which included Franciscan Children’s organization, the Greater Boston YMCA, Parkway Pop Warner, Parkway Little League, Parkway Girls Softball, the Jason Roberts Challenger League, Watertown Youth Baseball and Softball, the Watertown Challenger League, the Watertown Boys & Girls Club, after school programs, the Special Olympics, the Boston Public Schools and local families in need.

Walsh said though it was a bit chilly on Monday, it didn’t stop any of the regulars from coming out to support the event. “Weather doesn’t stop us,” she said. “We’re having a lot of fun. We have 44 teams, so about 200 people out here playing. We’re on four different fields right now.”

Walsh said they usually raise about $10,000 for the event, and that’s the goal. She said the organization of the event is hectic, but she loves the work. “I’m running around, but it’s a good day for all of us,” she said. “We get to see family and friends and people from the community, it’s just awesome.”

Former roommates of Ed Walsh, Brian Donovan and Anthony Fallon, said this was something that Walsh himself would have loved. “It’s amazing, really what Kristen does,” Donovan said. “I mean usually things lose steam over the years, but she’s gaining steam and it’s pretty impressive, especially as she’s raising three kids.”

They said they played a lot at Bridgewater State University, and that this was one of the things they always did to blow off steam during their time there. “This is what we did,” he said. “We played at his house in sophomore year, he had a house off campus and we wiffled all day. It was right up his alley, getting together with friends and having a good day.”

“This is exactly what Ed loved to do,” Fallon said. Jaime Jones said she came out from Reading to support their friends, Kathy and Kevin Walsh who are Ed Walsh’s cousins. “It’s an amazing event,” she said. “We have so much fun. Usually my son puts together a team, but this year another group of his friends were able to put one together and we’ve doubled out support. We’re from Reading and we’ve doubled our players and it’s just a great thing.”

Cousins to Ed, Karen Buschini, Diane Fucci and Paul Kelly said this was one of the best ways to honor his legacy in the community. “Rain or shine, people show up and Ed was all about family, fun, sports, getting people together so it’s a great way to honor his life,” Buschini said.

Resident and Boston University Police Officer Bob McCarthy said, “Boston University is in the area of Engine 33 and Ladder 15, so we respond to similar calls with the firefighters from there so when Kennedy and Walsh perished in that tragedy, we bear the prob-Wiffle Ball

Continued on page 13

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Hallowed be her name?

In 1964—"The Wedding," sung by Julie Rogers, peaked at #10 in the pop charts across the United States, and was more popular higher in the United Kingdom and Australia. What is unusual about this pop song is that its lyrics reference another song, a religious one at that, "Ave Maria."

"The Wedding" is about an envisioned church ceremony—"the singer anticipates . . . her sweet voices singing the ‘Ave Maria’ being played on her big day. So there, we have the ‘Ave Maria’ being mentioned in thousands of public high school gyms across the states at teenage dances, the separation of church and state notwithstanding. Moreover, what is outstanding in this day and age, there is not the least amount of disrespect in the reference to the Virgin Mary.

Let’s recall an episode of the television series "Blue Bloods." Already in syndication, the series chronicles the activities of a New York City police family, the Reagan. The tight, Irish family encompasses four generations: the great-grandfather, a former police commissioner himself; the grandfather, played by one of the show’s co-stars; Tom Selleck, as the current police commissioner; and two of his offspring. They are also police officers with the NYPD.

In one vignette, Tom Selleck meets his district attorney daughter for a drink after work: he opts for a non-alcoholic Bloody Mary, prompting the wise-cracking daughter to label it a Virgin Mary. The police commissioner objects, claiming that his Jesuit education taught him not to disrespect the mother of Jesus by referring to her with her name.

All of which leads to the name of Mary being used quite a lot in sports references particularly in American football and cricket. The most common version is that the phrase was coined by the Reverend James Heslin, a Jesuit priest, in the 19th century. The use of the phrase is thought to have originated in 1843 when the Catholic Church introduced the Hail Mary prayer. The prayer is said in the Roman Catholic Church and other Christian denominations to Mary, mother of Jesus, as a prayer of greeting, respectfully acknowledging her as the mother of Jesus and asking her to help (or "pray for us") the speaker and the hearers.

The phrase "Hail Mary" is often associated with a last-second play or kick in American football. In the context of this column, the reference is to the last-second play by the Boston College Eagles in their game against the University of Miami in 1975.

The Eagles were trailing the Hurricanes 45-44 with 35 seconds left in the game. Boston College quarterback Doug Flutie, playing his last home game, threw a desperation 48-yard touchdown pass to wide receiver Gerard Phelan to give Boston College a thrilling 47-45 last-second win over the University of Miami before a crowd of 42,000 at the Orange Bowl on Nov. 23, 1984. The last-second heave, highlighted on national television, cast Flutie into the national limelight, as the 10th ranked Eagles defeated the preceding year’s national champion.

The only misinformation about the game is that they did not call a timeout before the snap. As for us, perhaps. For others, we know that when we are thinking about the Hail Mary, we are not really thinking about the constant, secular references to the mother of Jesus by television commentators? For some, perhaps. Maybe, just maybe, the essence of the phrase, the Hail Mary pass, will proliferate even more so among countless sports fans from which we can draw strength before our final breath.

- The Bulletin

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- The Bulletin
Jeff Sullivan
Staff Reporter

Last week, the Boston City Council voted to hold a hear- ing regarding hosting a local iteration of the Car Free Day initiative.

The Car Free Day, Sept. 22, is a advocacy day in which drivers are encouraged to try to get around by any other means than their car. The gen- esis behind the event is to pro-mote mass transit and renew- able travel to help ease con- gestion. At-Large City Coun- cilor Michelle Wu said the city has seen street shut down events for the past few years experience great success in getting cars off those particu- lar streets, but also encourag- ing residents to come together.

“We all can think of ex- amples of times in our dis- tricts where we just shut down the street even for a block or two and how much it came alive with people coming out- side, bringing their kids and food and just building a sense of community,” said Wu. “From the Bike and Brew Fes- tival in Dorchester jut a a food and just building a sense aving residents to come together.

“From the Bike and Brew Fes- tival in Dorchester jut a a food and just building a sense aving residents to come together.

“Their realy should be thought of more as public community land, we could do more on that,” she said. “Then there’s the whole environmen- tal sustainability aside, where we know that the emissions from cars are not just causing the acceleration of climate change but also really impact- ing people’s health. The stud- ies have shown that Chinatown residents living by the highways have much higher instances of asthma and diseases, and urban resi- dents in general, due to not just living near roads, but also affected by the lack of park- ing due to people circling and trying to find a place to put that car, that creates even more pollution and emis- sions.”

Wu cited an ambitious ex- ample that Paris undertook in 2015, when they shut down the most urban downtown ar- eas of the city to traffic. She said a full 30 percent of the city was closed to vehicular traffic, and she said the effect was amazing.

“They did some measure- ments and they found that the nitrogen dioxide levels dropped by 40 percent from just that one car-free day and the noise levels in the city dropped by half,” she said. “So there’s lots of impacts that we don’t think about. They have done it every year since then, expanding it throughout the city. There’s a lot of details on how some- thing like this would happen. Is it just a gentle encourage- ment, like some American cit- ies have tried, or is it really that we’re going to shut down these streets to vehicular traf- fic except for emergency ve- hicles. It’s not just as simple as picking the day and saying we’re going to do it.”

District 8 City Councilor Josh Zakim pointed out that as Boston is getting denser, more and more residents are being
couraged or forced not to own a car.

“If we’re asking people to have less parking in the city and not use their cars in the city we do have to have a re- liable public transit system,” he said. “It is vital for our city’s economic growth, envi- ronment and public health to have reliable, consistent and affordable public transit that we’re invested in. That’s ob- viously something the City of Boston can’t do on its own.”

The Council also went over issues discussed in a pre- vious meeting on the possibil- ity of reconstructing the Long Island Bridge and turning the facility there into an opioid treatment center. District 2 City Councilor Ed Flynn said he supported the move and said during his time as a pro- bationary officer of the Suf- folk County Sheriff’s Office, he would go to the old Long Island Homeless shelter fre- quently.

“I think more than half of my clients’ probationers were outside of Boston and they came here to get healthcare. They came to Boston to get housing and they came to the probation department,” he said. “Most of these crimes happened outside the city and
The Bulletin

October 11, 2018

Beth Shalom donates to Milton Food Bank

The Annual Yom Kippur Food Donation from Cong. Beth Shalom of the Blue Hills to the Milton Food Bank was delivered recently by volunteers David Mabel and Lisa Sadler. The collection of about 50 bags of food coincides with the holiday fast, which reminds us of those who are hungry.

COURTESY PHOTO

Neponset River continued from page 1

Phase III was completed in 2017, when the construction of a 1.3-mile span between Mattapan Square and Central Avenue in Milton was completed and bridges were installed over the Neponset River and the Ashmont-Mattapan Trolley Line, most notably the Harvest River Bridge. According to the Greenway Council, there are still five more segments to go on the trail.

Segment 9 deals with the Paul’s Bridge near Brush Hill Road, just over the Hyde Park/Milton line. Currently, cyclists have to cross the road from the Truman Parkway section through the Neponset Valley Parkway, which can be dangerous, as the curve can make visibility of cyclists difficult for motorists. According to DCR Project Manager Stella Lensing, progress is being made.

“I’ve put it on the five-year capital plan,” she said. “That is our facilities planning and design capital plan, but whether the costs get approved or not is another matter, but I’ve put money aside for all of these things and then, once approved, we’ll be out here starting construction.”

Members of the NRGC said they were enthused about this project and hoped more could be done faster. The plan would be to create a bike and pedestrian path under the bridge to reduce chances of interaction with motorist traffic.

“The next step is to get it to Blue Hills around or under Paul’s Bridge,” said NRGC member Joseph Finnigan.

Segment 7 deals with the connection from Fairmount Ave. to Dana Avenue. Lensing again said the connection, which runs along the Truman Parkway as an unprotected bike lane, is also on the five-year capital plan.

“We’re looking at the whole area as to where we put that bike lane. When the funding is available we’ll take a look at that... Hopefully it gets approved and we can get started.”

The problem, Lensing said, is that the funding has to be approved by both DCR and the State Legislature, which means that representatives and senators from outside the district have to approve it.

“Whether it’s in their district or not we have to show it serves their district and that’s what we need them to know,” said NRGC member Jessica Mink.

The next NRGC meeting is set for November 7 at 7 p.m. at the E-18 District Station of the Boston Police Department. For more information, go to neponsetgreenway.org.
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**Deaths**

O’SULLIVAN  
Timothy J., Sr. “Fadden” Of Hyde Park, October 1, 2018. Loving husband of Mary Ann O’Sullivan and the late Christina O’Sullivan. Devoted father of Rosemary O’Sullivan of Waltham, and the late Timothy J. O’Sullivan, Jr. Brother of Hannah (Chris) O’Rourke and Kathleen Gannon of Newton, Mary Mangan, Nora Kellihier, and Eileen O’Mahony of Killammy, Co. Kerry, Ireland, the late David O’Sullivan, and Bridget O’Callaghan, and three dogs Lumpy, Graine, Niahm. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, cousins, and godchildren. Retired 45-year V.P., Driver for Harvard University. Irish Football Player for Ern’s Hope in the 1960’s. Breeder of Boxers for many years. Many Thanks to the Staff of the Hebrew Rehab. and Brigham & Women’s Hospital. A funeral was held from the Funeral Home on Saturday, October 6th, followed by a Memorial Mass at St. Pius, X Church, Milton. Internment Mount Benedict Cemetery. George F. Doherty & Sons West Roxbury. 617-325-2000. For guestbook pmurrayfuneral.com

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**CM Students Raise Over $5,000 for the American Cancer Society**

Cantón’s Aidan Gallery stood before a packed Ronald S. Perry Gymnasium on October 1, 2018, and announced that the CM 2018 Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk had raised $5,000 for the American Cancer Society. Clinic’s Vice Principal Ms. Gloria Hatch Shell stage, The Making Strides Against Breast Cancer organization presented Dr. Dolan and five student representatives with a plaque recognizing the $12,000 that CM raised for the American Cancer Society in 2017. CM earned fifth place honors amongst all participating teams fundraising for the event last year.

“Personally, my life hasn’t been affected by breast cancer in my own family,” said senior Peer Minister Matthew Freitas, who joined Dr. Dolan on stage. “Fundraising for the walk is an amazing way for the entire CM community to join together in order to focus on a specific goal, and it just so happens it’s for such an important cause. Every dollar raised isn’t just going to a random, meaningless cause, it goes to something that means a lot to the entire student body.”

On stage, Dr. Dolan led the Red Sea in a rendition of the school’s fight song. The students below huddled together and sang in chorus. Their voices echoed to the walk’s start line. Upperclassmen, underclassmen, and middle schoolers alike began the two-mile trail on the Charles River in unison.

Over the course of the hour-long trek, the group extended into a united red line. Students stopped every now and then for a photo. Others lost themselves in a conversation with a new friend. It seemed impossible not to with such a warm community of neighboring schools gathered together for a noble cause. They exchanged stories, sharing with one another why they gathered on the Esplanade that day.

While the walk ended at 10:30 that morning, its spirit stayed in the hearts of everyone who participated.

“Having this as a part of the school’s tradition is, to me, one of the best things we do as a community,” said Aidan, after returning from the walk. “It really shows that we, as an all-boys school, are there for women who are dealing with so much and we want to be there for them. It means a lot to the entire student body.”

For more information, visit www.makingstrides.org.
Residents shared their stories regarding what they saw as unfair rent increases across the city.

PHOTO BY JON SULLIVAN

up all these houses.”

She said the rent increases are only part of the problem, as she said during the meeting that City Realty has been accused of leaving properties in unsafe and uninhabitable conditions. One couple at the meeting, Freezica and Victor Herrera, said they have been fighting City Realty for the past six years to stay in their home. Freezica said they have finally agreed to leave in July 2019. She said she took out a mortgage over that time to $2,600 for a single bedroom, which has forced all the original tenants out and students have come in.

“They said they don’t want me there anymore, they’ve told me many times,” she said. “The sewer on the first floor floods and it comes up in my kitchen, which is full of sewage. It takes them eight to 10 hours to fix it, and this has happened three times before. I call five or six times and it took them eight hours to come out and fix the pipe. To prevent flooding, every half hour I had to empty out my kitchen with a bucket and throw it from the porch because they would not come.”

Matthews said CLVU originally worked on the Just Cause Eviction City Ordinance, which she said became the “watered down” version in the Jim Brooks Stabilization Act. She said the Act is currently sitting in committee in the Massachusetts State Legislature.

“It hasn’t been finally negated at the state level, but it’s effectively killed,” she said. “It required that a landlord has a reason to evict a tenant, which seems like a pretty straightforward thing and there are many just cause eviction ordinances in place in many cities in the United States.”

Matthews said that political pressure caused the watered down version of the ordinance, which then just required that landlords notify the city any time there’s an eviction, and that residents are apprised of their rights. It would also allow a foreclosed property to be bought by a non-profit to rent out to the original homeowner.

“Lawmakers just wouldn’t stand up to the displacement crisis and that was a real wake up call,” she said. “We have to circle back and think about what is the next move we want to make.”

We’re not just going to take this lying down.

Matthews said that they can only estimate how many residents are being evicted from court cases involving those who wish to fight their evictions. She said they estimate that for every one resident who tries to fight an eviction, there are five to six more that do not.

“We see so many people who get a notice to quit and they just pack up all their stuff and throw it from the porch because they would not come.”

Matthews said CLVU organizers joined the group after facing eviction themselves, like resident Ronel Remy. Remy said he fought with landlords from 1993 to 1999, and has moved from Somerville, to Dorchester and Hyde Park. He said many residents now have to move much farther and leave behind their communities and, sometimes, their families.

“There are not too many places that are cheaper now,” he said.

“Basically, now if you move from here you have to go to Brockton, Randolph, Braintree, Quincy, Chelsea, Fall River and even New Bedford. That is where folks are going, further away from the city and the economic engine of the state. It’s like the Earth was made for a few people and not for all of us. Imagine if these people were in charge of oxygen, they’d have us for free.”

CLVU has helped many residents fight to stay in their homes. CLVU organizer Antonio Ennis brought up the example of the Mason family, who were almost forced out of their home in Dorchester because of foreclosure. Ponte-Capellan said they worked closely with the Coalition for Occupied Homes in Foreclosure (soon to be renamed the Boston Community Land Trust) and the Mason family to allow a local non-profit to buy the house from the family and let them stay at affordable rent from Wells Fargo.

“The nonprofit offered to buy it, and they’ve refused all these years to sell this non-profit so they could sell it to investors,” he said. “The bank obviously wants top dollar, but the nonprofit has to buy low to keep the rents low.”

Ennis said they’ve been trying to shame Wells Fargo into selling the property, and since the recent scandal at the company, which involved many employees creating bank accounts for customers they did not want, the company has retracted.

“They’ve been spending a lot of money to try to change their image,” he said.

Mason family members Chandra Bridges and Eileen Spencer said they were amazed at the help they got after years of protesting and fighting Wells Fargo.

“Without all the efforts they put in we don’t know where we would be right now. We didn’t know where to go and where to turn to get this house back, and finally we have reached that point of having our house back to ourselves,” said Bridges.

Matthews also related the current fight he and many other tenants are going through with Advanced Property Management in Hyde Park and Mattapan. According to the group, they are working with residents in six buildings, representing more than 400 units in the area. According to CLVU, APM and its associated company, the Mayo Group, began raising rents in the area in 2014, and in 2017, CLVU set up meetings with about 11 tenants to negotiate with APM.

Each tenant had an average tenure of about 20 years in their buildings. The negotiations broke down when APM set a clause that would increase rents much more than any of the residents could afford in four years (with a $200 rent increase in year one and 3.5 percent increases for years two, three and four). Initially, before knowing of the year four increase, those tenants agreed to APM, but when that year four clause was discovered, CLVU said tenants could not accept what would have been “de facto move-out agreement.”

CLVU stated it is currently working on a response. For more information on CLVU campaigns, go to http://www.clvu.org/.

Social Security Matters

Ask Rusty – “Surprise” Medicare Premium Increase

Dear Rusty: I don’t know if my situation is unique but here it is. I am 74 years old. I bought savings bonds to add to my retirement fund and now that I have cashed in some, I no longer must pay income tax on the interest, but the added income has put me above an established allowable income, so my Medicare premiums have increased, and that increase is taken out of my social security benefits. It seems I am being punished for being someone who plans ahead for retirement. It’s bad enough that I am taxed on 85% of my social security payments but with this added surprise my benefits are declining each year. There seems to be a lack of information on Social Security and Medicare benefits and penalties. Thanks for providing a forum to air my situation. Signed: Surprised and Frustrated

Dear Surprised: I fully understand your dilemma, and I agree that some of the risks to Social Security benefits from changing income levels aren’t widely publicized. From what you’ve told me, it appears that you are being affected by a Medicare provision referred to as “IRMAA,” or the Income-Related Medicare Adjustment Amount. The IRMAA provision states that if a beneficiary’s annual Modified Adjusted Gross Income exceeds certain levels, they must pay a higher Medicare Part B premium and a supplemental amount for their Part D premium for prescription drug coverage. As a result of the Part B premium for Social Security benefit, IRMAA can and, indeed, lower your net Social Security benefit payment. The base Part B premium for 2018 is $134 but increases the base income amount of $85,000 to $100,000 (for single, 100,000 for married filers) plus 50% of the beneficiary’s modified adjusted gross income above $85,000 (150%, 200% of $100,000) and 25% of modified adjusted gross income above $445,000 (300% of $100,000) to a maximum of $1,000 for single beneficiaries, $1,500 for married beneficiaries filing jointly and $2,000 for married beneficiaries filing separately.

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The Bulletin

October 11, 2018

City, Red Sox, celebrate BPD Officer Horgan at Fenway

On Saturday, October 6, 2018, Boston Police Officer Steve Horgan, joined by Mayor Walsh, friends, family, and coworkers, threw out the ceremonial first pitch at the Boston Red Sox vs New York Yankees ALDS Game 2 at Fenway Park. In honor of Officer Horgan’s final season with the Red Sox, he was awarded with an “Officer Horgan Way” commemorative street sign and memories to last him a lifetime. The men and women of the BPD, along with all of Red Sox Nation, wish Officer Horgan the best in his retirement.

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Grateful thanks. —K.A.D.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

Dear Heart of Jesus, in the past I have asked You for many favours. This time, I ask you this very special one (mention favour). Take it, dear Heart of Jesus, and place it within Your merciful eyes, it will become Your favour, not mine. Amen. Say for three days, promise publication and favour will be granted.

—F.R.

Prayer to the Blessed Virgin

Oh, most beautiful Flower of Mt. Carmel, fruitful vine, splendor of Heaven, Blessed Mother of the Son of God, Immaculate Virgin, assist me in this necessity. Oh Star of the Sea, help me and show me wherein you are my mother. Oh Holy Mary, Mother of God, Queen of Heaven and Earth, I humbly beseech thee from the bottom of my heart to succor me in my necessity (make request). There are none that can withstand your power. Oh Mary, conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee (three times). Holy Mary, I place this cause in your hands (three times). Say this prayer for three consecutive days and then you must publish it and it will be granted to you. Grateful thanks. —A.E.P.

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continued from page 1

on a “problem property list.” Or you can call 911.”

Once there are more than four calls, Flynn added, it increases concern within ISD, as well as the potential for fines, which would increase in value of anywhere from $25 to a figure he estimated of “between up to $1,500 to $2,000,” depending upon the number of complaints and the severity of the issue.

“We want to know the consequences,” Smith said. “We don’t know if there is a fine for each incident reported.”

Flynn said he would check on the specifics and report back to the committee. However, he added that the more complaints the City receives, “the stronger the case will be. Then I can create a file.”

If people do not report issues such as these, “I feel like a lot of times, it’s more likely to fall through the cracks,” Flynn said.

To contact Flynn directly, email him at bryan.flynn@boston.gov.

“Everyone knows that paving a lawn is a violation.” Gretchen Van Ness, the other zoning committee co-chair, added. “If you see something happening, call 311. If you are afraid of being identified, call 911.”

Also, in response to the recent gas explosions in Merrimack Valley, District Five City Councilor Tim McCarthy opened up about his own experiences about a gas explosion near his father’s home in Readville in 2010. Although it was neither the same company nor the same cause, he said he knows the fear and horror that those people are experiencing.

“It was right on the middle of our homes,” McCarthy said. “A lot of memories came stirring back.”

He described how, in the situation in Readville, a-backhoe hit a gas line.

“Immediate protocol would tell you to tie off the pipe,” McCarthy said of the house on Reynolds Road. “But they didn’t. The gas went seeping into the home. It just blew up.”

McCarthy said that gas leaks are a problem that need to be addressed in Boston, and because of this recent incident, the problem has been brought to light.

“There are over 3,000 leaks every single day,” McCarthy said.

“We are working with the State House now. “I don’t want this problem to happen again. We spend $90 million on gas leaks every year.”

“If you smell gas, get out,” he warned.

Smith and Rita Walsh, who ran the meeting, asked if McCarthy could get a representative from Nstar to come to the next FHNA meeting to explain the gas concerns. McCarthy said there has been “a big demand” since the explosion, but he would put in the request.

Another environmental concern of McCarthy, which he co-proposed in the Boston City Council that day with District Six City Councilor Matt O’Malley, was the planting of trees when new houses are built that cut down trees on the property.

“I’ve had enough,” McCarthy said of developers who tear down neighborhood trees to put up driveways, and other similar concerns. He mentioned towns such as Newton and Wellesley that have similar statutes.

“They will be requested to put more trees up,” McCarthy added.

“We will work with the Parks Department and environmental groups.”

Van Ness asked if fines or penalties could be added to the proposal for developers who remove trees, to which McCarthy replied, “Absolutely.”

“This is a good rundown of your priorities,” said Smith. “I have smelled gas on Milton Avenue and Farmount Ave.”

Walsh told McCarthy and Flynn that resident parking stickers might help with the traffic problem caused by illegal parking on Beacon Street.

“The bus tries to get up the street,” Walsh said. “Cars try to come down, but there are cars parked on Beacon Street that shouldn’t be. The bus can’t get by, and the cars aren’t going to back up.”

Resident success stories included the recent neighborhood yard sale held on September 15, and the Neponset River Cleanup on September 22. Money raised may be used toward a holiday party in December.

In other news, on September 25 at 8:45 p.m., there was a robbery at the Hyde Park Mobil station at 264 Neponset Valley Parkway, according to Officer Paul Broderick, who gave the police report. “A black male, 6’2’’, wearing black clothing robbed the gas station of about $200. He did show a firearm.”

The next FHNA meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 24 at 7 p.m. at the police academy at 85 Williams Avenue.
After hearing so many people protest so vocally about the traffic and other ramifications on the neighborhood, Raymond said the meeting had one good outcome.

“It is putting the bear back into Readville,” he said.

Another proposed development mentioned at that meeting which has been in the works for some time is the Readville Yard 5 project near the Fr. Hart Bridge. That development, in its current form, will add 305 housing units to the area.

“The people voice their opinion against a project, it gets railroaded in,”

Stephanie MacGuire, aide to District 5 City Councillor Tim McCarthy, presented a written letter from the councillor stating his opposition to the Sprague Street development as it was presented.

“During this process, I have been under great pressure to make a decision on where I stand on this project,” McCarthy said in the letter. “I always felt that grandstanding or making a premature decision during budget deadlines is not professional and doesn’t serve my neighborhood. My role is to provide an opportunity for voices to be heard, on both sides of an issue.

“I refused to weigh in because I believe that we should all have an opportunity to state our case,” McCarthy continued.

“As a Readville resident, this project would affect my family as much as anyone reading this today. But after the meeting on October 1, it is clear to me that the development team failed to make a case to Readville and our Dedham neighbors that the plan would benefit our community.”

Raymond stressed the importance of other legislators joining McCarthy’s stance would help the neighborhood in defeating the proposal.

“The only thing I can say is that having Dedham come into it, as well as our at-large City Councillors, would really give us some leverage,” Raymond explained. A couple of Dedham residents did testify at the meeting.

Jesseca Rodríguez, chief of staff to at-large City Councillor Anissa Essaibi George, said she would bring the issue back to the councilor.

“Councillor Michael Flaherty has been a big ‘no’ from the beginning,” said community activist Craig Martin. “He is a steadfast ‘no’ now.”

The Southwest Boston Community Development Corporation (SWBCDC) also voiced its opposition to the project because of a lack of affordable housing.

Bryan Flynn, Hyde Park’s liaison to the Mayor’s Office of Neighborhood Services, told the attendees to call their councilors, himself and Mayor Martin J. Walsh’s office to voice their opinions.

“I have said to the Mayor that the community is vehemently against it,” Flynn said.

“I do believe there was a discrepancy with notification,” he continued. “There was inadequate notification from the BPDA. I told the Mayor that myself.”

Another issue of concern was the potential development of the former William Barton Rogers Middle School on Everett Street. There had been discussions at one point to convert it into housing that is LGBTQ friendly, several people in attendance said.

Philadelphia-based developer Pennrose is the company involved with the project, according to Flynn.

“We have no dates or anything,” Flynn said. “It’s basically what the plan was when I inherited the job a year and a half ago.”

“First of all, labeling it as LGBTQ is just to have a title on it, like a ‘gay Animal House,’” said Martin. “They, meaning the developer.”

Flynn noted that the building should incorporate “positive inclusivity, as it should be.”

“I have had two conversations with the Mayor myself,” said Joe Smith of the Fairmount Hill Neighborhood Association. “It has never been marketed as such.”

“It only needs a transfer of paperwork,” he added. “He (Walsh) told me as recently as May that it was in the works.”

Smith said that the HPNA should modify the proposal to allow for the development of senior housing, which is desperately needed.

Hyacinth Clarke gave an example of this need she witnessed his winter right near the Rogers.

“There was an 85-year-old woman living in her car,” she said. “I brought her blankets and food. We do need housing in Hyde Park.”

In a conversation with The Bulletin Saturday, October 6, McCarthy said it would be a great project as presented two years ago.

“From my last update, BPS (Boston Public Schools) was not comfortable enough to surplus the building until the Build BPS report was completed,” he said.

Build BPS is the 10-year education and facilities masterplan issued by BPS on March 1, 2017.

However, to go from an initial proposal to the final construction would take an average of five years.

“Make sure you take responsibility,” Raymond told the audience. “We are a unit. We are Hyde Park.”
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OCTOBERFEST; FIESTA! IT’S NOT HERE YET!
Octoberfest is JPNC’s annual fundraising spectacle. Join us for a lively evening of celebration with your neighbors, community, enjoying local beer,
eating dishes from top local res-
taurants, and dancing all while
raising funds to support small businesses, family asset building and leaderships! Thursday, October 6, 6-9 PM at the JPNC Brewery Small Busi-
ness Complex!

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Cheri – Every Thursday at 3:00 pm
Wind A Cappella Thursday, October 23 at 3:30 pm

WEST ROXBURY/ ROSLINDEAL

MHC Neighborhood Asso-
ciation Monthly Meeting
The Ward 20 Democratic Committee will be having its fall breakfast Saturday October 13th from 9:30-11:30 AM at the Curri Cup & Pub Restaurant. Our guest speaker will be Attorney General, Suffolk County District Attorney Dan Conley.

WARD 20 DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
The Ward 20 Democratic Committee will be having its fall breakfast Saturday October 13th from 9:30-11:30 AM at the Curri Cup & Pub Restaurant. Our guest speaker will be Attorney General, Suffolk County District Attorney Dan Conley.

WEST ROXBURY LIBRARY EVENTS
ANNUAL MEETING - On Thursday, October 18, Boston Globe advice columnist Meredith Goldstein will talk about her book. Can’t Help My-
self: Lessons and Confessions from a Modern Advice Culum-
nist. The best-selling book is a disarmingly honest memoir about giving advice when you’re not sure what you’re doing yourself. For over nine years Meredith has provided guidance and sympathy to many people through her column in the Globe. She will be using her book as a springboard for discussion. She will present her book from 7:00 to 9:00 PM and tickets are $20. Refreshments will be served. For more information please call West Roxbury Library at 617-965-9590.

Tuesday, October 16 – 3:30 pm
Drop In Knitting

CONCERT FEATURING FOLK GROUP MUSTARD’S RETREAT WITH MARCIA FELDMAN
Friday, October 8, 9:00 p.m. at Theodore Parker Church, 485 Centre Street, West Roxbury “Music to cure what ails you!” For the past four de-
cades, Mustard’s Retreat has been entertaining, educating and entertaining their special brand of folk mu-
sic. Highly acclaimed not only as lyricists, but also as interpreters of traditional and contemporary songs and stories, their show is full of humor, good tone, and fine musicmanship. Multi-in-
strumentalists (guitar, electric bass, dulcimer, mandolin, harp, and penny whistle), the trio’s large repertoire draws on the dual influences of the folk revival of the ‘40s and the ex-
plosive singer-songwriter move-
ment. Their latest album, “Make Your Own Lunch,” is a jazzier, more spry, and playful version of traditional folk songs that captures the youth and energy of the time. Mustard’s Retreat will return to the Theodore Parker Church on its current tour and this time it will be an afternoon concert.

Friends of the Poor 5K Walk
Make a positive difference in the lives of those in need in our community! The St. Vincent de Paul Parishes in the parishes of St. John Chrysostom, Holy Name, and Sacred Heart are sponsoring The Friends of the Poor 5K Walk on October 21st from 1:00-3:30. The Walk will be held rain or shine across from the Holy Name Church in West Roxbury. Walk- ers will meet at the theology building near the main entrance of the church. All proceeds will be used to help the less for-
tunate. For information contact your parish or contact the Parish of Good Shepherd at 617-373-6525. Proceeds to benefit church projects.

Blessing of the Animals
The Stratford Street United Church hosts a Blessing of the Animals Service on Billings Street on Sunday, October 14th @ 10:00 am. The Stratford Street United Church invites all of our neigh-
bors, including all your special pets, to celebrate and honor the animals in our lives, and be-
yond, in recognition of the life of St. Francis, the patron saint of animals and the environment. There will be individual bless-
ings of all animals and their hu-
mans; honoring their sacred connection to the world. No matter what your faith back-
ground or practice you are wel-
come to attend this fun event! Join your neighbors for this special event. Hot Coffee and Treats for pets will be available in abund-
ance!

42ND ANNUAL BAZAAR & FOOD FAIR PLANNED
St. George Antiochian Ortho-
dox Church of Boston is proud to announce their 42nd Annual Bazaar & Food Fair to be held at their community center located at 138 Stratford Street in West Roxbury, MA, on Friday and Saturday, October 19th and 20th from 10:00AM to 9:00PM and an additional Crafts Night from 12PM – 3PM – FREE AD-
MISSION/WHEELCHAIR AC-
CESSIBLE. Full kitchen service and take-out available. Authenti-
c Middle Eastern Cuisine and Mediterranean dishes like: Pastries, Pastry, Country Store, White Ele-
phant Table and much more. Do not miss the special event on Saturday at 7:00PM - St. George. Purchase Galaxy Rabbit Raffle tickets to win fabulous prizes! There’s something for everyone at the St. George Church Bazaar!

For more information, please call St. George Church at (617)373-6525. Proceeds to benefit church projects.
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